

strange to say, only one pig. I had only two shots at the unclean beasts, I wounded the other badly, but he got away. I saw no tigers, though I was precious close to them, on more than one occasion. I lost a very fine bear, to my intense disgust; the conical ball I was loaded with, must I fancy, have glanced; for I took a deliberate pot at the old fellow, at about fifty yards, and down the hill-side he went, three steps and a roll over, till he got safe into the dense jungle.

I got an attack of fever, which has stuck to me on and off ever since, and has obliged me to give up campaigning after elephants, which requires a man in the most robust health. The only visitor I had came during my fever bout. He fired but at one elephant; and whilst up with the herd, the man who was carrying the spare gun got so frightened that he pulled the trigger, and sent a two-ounce brass bullet into my best scout's head. Fortunately, it only scalped him, and in a month or two he was all right again. A narrow escape for the poor fellow!

FOUR DAY'S SPORT IN THE DECCAN.

A friend of mine who kept Shikar elephants, had just returned from his annual two months' trip to the jungles, when I proposed we should go and beat up the quarters of a tigress with cubs, whom I had fired at some six months before on foot, and as in this part of the country they rarely leave their old haunts unless wounded, there was every chance of finding her again; so off we sent our men to get intelligence as to her whereabouts, and sent our tents to a village, about ten miles distant from the spot where we expected to find her, with the intention of beating the hills for bears, till our scouts rejoined us. The first day, two bears fell to our rifles. The following morning, G—— was a little in advance of me, standing on the edge of a deep ravine, when I saw him level and take a deliberate aim with his heavy double-barrel. The first missed fire, and the second sent a magnificent panther bounding across me, at the distance of sixty or seventy yards. I gave her a volley, but on she went, uninjured. G—— had seen her basking on the rock below. I jumped on my horse, and, rifle in hand, rode after her, to keep her in sight, which she enabled me to do, easily, every now and then stopping to look at me. I saw her safe into a small cave on the side of a ravine. We could, with the aid of an opera-glass, just make out the tips of her ears, and fired six shots from the opposite side of the ravine at her, before she would condescend to stir. At last, out she came, savage enough, and at us like lightning. We each fired the contents of our three double-barrels, and stopped her charge, when about ten yards from us. We bolted, to re-load behind some trees; and when we returned she again came at us, and was again rolled over. The third time, she sprang to within three yards of us, and dropped dead at our feet. Thirteen bullets had struck her; two of which had gone through her tail. A gamier brute rarely falls to sportman's lot to meet.

Shortly after, we killed a fine bear, and started another, who made off. I rode after him, and fired no less than five shots from horse-back, without effect; galloping over rough ground unsteadily one's aim. At last I lost sight of him, and, having only one barrel loaded, was on the point of rejoining my friend, when I sighted a fine blue bull neilghie. Riding down the side of the hill, my coat caught in one of the thick, thorny bushes, and out jumped Bruin

standing on his hind legs, within a yard of me, and in a minute would have had me off the horse. Instinctively the rifle was placed against his brawny chest, and my only remaining bullet went slap into the horse's shoe. Round went my adversary, and when the beaters arrived, they found him about fifty yards from where he had stopped me. After this, I rolled over a mangy old hyena, going as hard as he could; a pretty shot of nearly two hundred yards.

On the morrow we got news of the tigress, and went to the ground with one elephant. We saw more than once a tiger's skin moving about in the bushes on a rock, some thirty feet high, and fired, apparently without effect. At last, out came the old lady, and a magnificent sight she was. We had killed two of her cubs; and infuriated at the sight of her dead young, she stood lashing her sides with her tail, her tangs glistening, and the sun shining on her beautiful skin. Down she came, with a roar which made the rocks ring, trying to jump on the elephant's head; and would have done so, had not a well-directed ball from G——, broke her shoulder, and then she was soon dispatched. The third cub, rather more than half-grown, charged in the most gallant style up to the very feet of the elephant; and the four were on their way to the tents, on the elephant's back, in less than half-an-hour from the time the first shot was fired.

The third day I went out alone, and put up three bears. The first died with one shot. The other two charged me together, round a ridge of rocks. I took a steady aim at the leading one, and gave him the contents of both barrels in his shoulder. Before I could cock my spare gun, after pitching my discharged one at the second bear's head, the brute was on me, and got me down on the ground. In the struggle, the gun went off, whether by accident or my own act, I never knew, but a two-ounce ball went through Bruin's belly, and luckily for me, in his rage he had hold of and tore the stump of a small tree, against which I had fallen, no doubt fancying it was my leg. This gave me time to cock, and fire the remaining ball through his neck, when he left me, to my great delight. I escaped with no serious damage to anything but my nerves, which did not feel the thing, for a day or two after.—*London Sporting Magazine.*

THE HORSE AND ITS RIDER.

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It may as well be mentioned here, that the several original breeds, or stocks of the horse, are evidently, though cursorily, alluded to in several places in Scripture, both in the visions of the ancient Hebrew Prophets, and in the Revelations of St. John. In the 1st chapter of Zechariah, and the 8th verse, the bay Syrian race, the white Armeno-Persian, and the piebald Macedonian, are evidently referred to in these words:—"I saw by night, and beheld a man riding upon a red horse, and he stood among the myrtle trees that were in the bottom, and behind him were three red horses, speckled and white." Again, in the 6th chapter of the Revelations, we have the white horse, the red, the black, and the pale horse; again, the Persian, the Syrian with the Median and Scythian, or Roman—types of the four great monarchies, not imaginary, but taken from existing races and actual localities.

As there is no trace whatever of the existence of an indigenous breed of wild horses in Arabia or the adjacent countries, we must conclude that

to great care taken in breeding and training the imported race, and to the selection of the finest forms, may be attributed the excellence of the Arabian stud—the natural quality was more fully developed by the sunny climate—the allowances of scanty but highly nutritious food, and the abstemiousness in drink—and the constant attention of the owner, and we may safely conclude that as at this day, the superior excellence of the English horse may be attributed to the careful and judicious intermixture of races, so did the Arabs derive their small but superb chargers from the Egyptian, Persian and Arabian breeds. This may account for the fact that, in very remote times, the Arab chiefs received presents of beautiful horses from neighbouring kings with joy; not that they wanted them, but that they might add to the excellence of their own breeds. And this, too, accounts for the great intermixture of colour in the Arab races. The Arabian horse was carefully bred, and this was not, and could not have been the case among the riding nations of Higher Asia, where the immense herds ranged wild over the interminable pastures, almost independent of human intervention and control. Such a nation as this cares more for aggregate number than individual value, the whole people were mounted, and in the saddle performed nearly all their necessary avocations. They crossed rivers by swimming their horses, or attaching them to rude rafts. Of all the human families, this alone eat the flesh of the horse; they drank the milk of their mares, and discovered how to form from it an intoxicating beverage. On horseback the marriage ceremony was performed; on horseback the Council of the nation debated its affairs; treaties of peace and declarations of war were dated from the stirrup of the Chaghan. In quite our times the Polish nobles met on horseback to elect their king. Among many of the riding nations the horse, mare and colt, were fixed standards of value, as the cow was among the Celtic tribes; and they inverted the bridle, saddle and stirrup, and probably the horse-shoe, of which latter we shall speak more at a future period. Tartar tribes at various periods in history, from the time of Attila to the 13th century, poured their swarms of cavalry westward, penetrating northward to Silesia, and southward to the Nile; twice, in the middle ages, they passed eastward, invaded and conquered China. There is no nation at this day that can or can equal force of cavalry to Russia. A cavalry officer of rank, in Canada, told me that he saw 60,000 Russian horsemen reviewed at one time by the Emperor Nicholas, and that among these were very few Cossacks. Yet, just before the French Revolution, the Russian cavalry could not stand before the Turks, unless in squares eight deep, with guns at the angles, and the fronts further protected by portable *chassez de frizes*, and even then they were often broken by the furious charge of the Spahis.

When all these facts are carefully compared and considered, no doubt can exist but that the aboriginal region in which the wild horse was first subdued to the use of man, must be sought for in High Asia, about the fortieth parallel of latitude, the vast tableland from whence for ages past riding Nomadic tribes have continued to issue, penetrating east, south and west, from periods long prior to all historical record.

It now remains to notice the various breeds of the horse as we find them mentioned in ancient writers, and rapidly trace them to our own times, it being primarily assumed that each race or tribe of men derived their own stock from the wild horses in their immediate vicinity—as the pied horse, or tangum, in the central mountains of Asia; the tarpan, or bay stock, more to the east and south; the pale horse, dun or calbach, on the banks of the Caspian, the white or vilious stock, on the Euxine, and the black, or crisped-haired, in Europe. Notwithstanding the intercourse among the nations in commerce, and the invasions of war, the distinctive features of these races are still to be discerned, clearly and decidedly as at this day are distinguished the different races of men. The tarpan or bay stock, originally reared on the banks of the Caspian, was most probably that which mounted the armies of the Hyksos, the Shepherd Kings, the first horsemen invaders of Arabia and Egypt; this breed was that which fell into the hands